

CRC, 3/13/2003

The Hemerable Bean Rusk Secretary of State Department of State Washington 25, D.C.

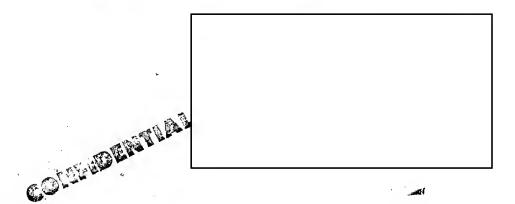
Bear Mr. Secretary:

I refer to my letter to you of June 27, 1961 and Assistant Secretary Hays' reply dated July 29, 1961, on the subject of scholarly communications and exchange with Communist China.

Mr. Hays' letter of July 29 referred to a meeting in the Repartment with Professor Lindbook on this subject. Mr. Hays concluded from this meeting: "I believe, therefore, that the needs of the academic community are being met as completely as existing circumstances will permit."

I wrote to Preferent Lindbeck and asked if he agreed with the Department's conclusion. I said: "My purpose in taking your time with this matter is, of course, to insure that United States policy on China does not result in a vacuum of study and ferocasting about Communist China. I would appreciate it if you could help me satisfy myself that we are not operating in too much ignorance."

Professor Lindbook does not agree that all is well. So replied in part as follows:



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"Although many hendicape and problems remain, asveral significant attempts are now underway to repair the almost total neglect of scholarly mark on Germunist China during the first decade of its existence. As in the case of American Russian studies in the post-war period, several years and large sums of money will be needed to produce a significant body of good scholarly research on Communist China.

"You ask if 'the needs of the academic community are being met as completely as existing circumstances will permit.' Scholarly communication with Communist China is unsatisfactory, as I have indicated, and the academic community in my opinion needs mere information. It seems to me that there is room for active discussion and emploration by scholars and American officials to determine if 'existing circumstances' will permit an improvement."

Assistant Secretary Hays' report discouraged me especially as I recognised in it some of the same unsound reasoning which long characterised the Department's handling of the question of permitting United States newsmen to go to Communist Chims. He policy can be better than the information on which it is based. I believe that the national interest requires additional knowledge of conditions and trends in Communist Chima through increased communications between scholars here and there and through exchanges of scholars.

I would like to obtain some measure of the Government's responsibility for the "neglect of scholarly work on Communist Chins" to which Professor Limiteck referred. For instance, I should like to have figures showing, for the last five years, United States Government expenditures for outside research on Communist Chins as Compared with similar laters for outside research on the Soviet Union. I should also like to have, for the

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last five years, similar association expanditures by the Department of State. It would be helpful to know the corresponding figures for these categories of research which will be included in the President's budget for Fiscal Year 1963.

I should like to have a report on any obstacles, subtle or direct, which the Department of State has placed in the way of initiative by American scholars in inviting Chinese Mainland scholars to participate more extensively in intermational scientific meetings, including meetings held in the United States.

In my letter of June 27 I asked for "a full discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of an exchange of scholars, an appraisal of the interest and capability for such work on the part of American scholars and an estimate of the prespects for such an exchange." Hr. Haye' reply of July 29 stated that "in the absence of comercte proposals for study and research from those who broadly represent American Sinalogists, we are unable to make an assessment along the lines you requested." I gather free Professor Lindbeck that representatives of the Joint Committee on Contemporary China (representing the American Council of Learned Societies and the Social Science Research Council) will be meeting with efficiels of the Department in December and that at that time they will present a paper on scholarly communication with Communist Chine. I therefore renew my request

Sincerely yours,

